

COMMISSIONERS APPROVAL

CHILCOTT *gc*

THOMPSON *at*

LYONS

PLETTENBERG (Clerk & Recorder)

Date.....March 28, 2007

Members Present.....Commissioner Greg Chilcott,
Commissioner Alan Thompson and Commissioner Howard Lyons

Minutes: Glenda Wiles

The Board met to review a draft of a proposed credit card policy with Glenda Wiles and Jana Exner due to the new Multi-Card Credit Card System the county will be utilizing with First Interstate Bank. This will be placed on the agenda next week for final approval. The Board also reviewed the existing cards and credit limits for departments, making a determination for the new card limits to be issued.

The Board also met with Fair Manager Gary Wiley to review the proposed Fair Commission by-laws. Gary stated he felt it was important for the Commissioners to 'sign off' on these by-laws since the Fair Commission adopted them. After discussion and review, Commissioner Chilcott made numerous changes which were substantive in nature. Gary will make the changes, taking them back to the Fair Commission for review and approval; then schedule another meeting with the Commissioners for final approval.

The Board met to award the dust abatement bids, however the Road Supervisor was not present with a recommendation. Commissioner Thompson made a motion to continue this bid award meeting until Monday, April 2nd. Commissioner Lyons seconded the motion and all voted "aye".

The Board met with Bob Haveck, Bob Jeffrey and Deb Wolfe, Administrative Officials of DEQ in regard the ambient air quality standards in Ravalli County. Bob Haveck stated they would like Ravalli County to adopt a local Air Quality District.

Bob Jeffrey presented a power point presentation which included the following topics:

- Ambient Air Quality Standards
- What is Particulate Matter
- PM 2.5 Air Pollution Data
- PM 2.5 NAAQS Compliance Review
- Questions and answers

Bob Jeffrey relayed the primary standards for air quality is to protect human health, including sensitive populations with health issues, such as children and senior citizens. The secondary standards are to protect the public welfare through crops, buildings and visibility. Bob indicated the current NAAQS standards for particulate matter is 2.5 microns. PM stands for particulate matter which is a complex mixture of extremely small solid particles and drops of liquid in the air. PM 2.5 air pollution sources include wood burning stoves, power plants, heavy duty diesel engines, cars and trucks, natural sources, non-road issues, forest fires and industrial sources.

He then presented a graph which shows the daily PM 2.5 averages. These samples include the wildfire smoke from July 2005 through January 2007. The graph shows peaks of particulate matter in the air during the summer when wild fires were occurring and during the winter when wood stoves are utilized. Bob also presented a graph which excludes any samples affected by wildfire smoke and there are peaks which still exceed the 24-hour standard for air quality. Because of the topography of Western Montana (valleys with mountains on both sides), air inversions take place.

Bob also presented some pictures of the Hamilton area which show 30% higher than accepted levels of PM in the air. Bob stated by removing the wildfire data, the PM 2.5 still exceeds the 98th percentile for acceptable levels of the 24-hour average. When averaging the past three years; they show an average of the 98th percentile continue to go above the 24-hour average. Montana will submit to the EPA a list of NAA on 12/18/07; EPA will publish these lists, making designations, and effective date for NAA (national air quality) designations by 4/12/10. The NAA clean up plans will be due to the EPA by 4/27/13. These clean up plans will be the responsibility of Ravalli County and the City of Hamilton.

Questions from the audience were taken by Bob Haveck and Bob Jeffries. Bob Jeffries also discussed the fact that diesel engines cause more pollution than gasoline engines, how to measure the size of the microns, and location & how the PM sampler works in Hamilton.

Commissioner Thompson stated it is important to work with the City in regard to these air particulate problems. He stated he would like to see other monitoring sites in Ravalli County such as the one that is located in the county is actually within the city limits.

Bob Haveck stated PM 2.5 moves through the air, while PM10 is heavier and does not move through the valley easily. He agreed the air samples will read very differently in Darby to Stevensville. However during the inversion days, the particulate is uniformly distributed through out the air.

Commissioner Chilcott asked about the Flathead County fine for dust. Bob stated Flathead was fined because they did not take 'reasonable precautions' for their air quality. DEQ had sent them notice of violations for the road dust and they were given the fine for 'nuisance dust'.

Commissioner Chilcott asked about the science behind this increase in the 1997 standards from 60 to 30 ug/m³ and how one can be held to that standard. Bob stated there has been thousands of studies for pollution and mortality and numerous scientists suggested the 24-hour PM 2.5 standards should actually be 25 ug/m³ rather than the 35 ug/m³. Thus the government did not go as low as was recommended.

Commissioner Chilcott asked if the data collected by the monitor at the courthouse is accurate. Bob stated there is a huge transportation corridor (Highway 93) from Hamilton to Missoula, and they are attempting to capture enough of the area to show an example along with certain specific area.

Commissioner Lyons asked if dust is a nuisance or a health hazard. Bob stated the dust is more of a nuisance issue for some people than a health issue, but it can be a health issue for those who are sensitive. Compounding issues can be toxicity in the dust. As the particles become smaller, the more of a health issue because it can go into your lungs.

Citizen Bob Frost asked about the loss of federal grants due to the air particulates. Bob Jeffries stated there would be a whole process that would occur before anyone would lose any federal grants.

Citizen Chris Lockenholker stated many thousands of people die prematurely every year from the PM 2.5 levels. Based on what he finds on the DEQ website this is serious. Bob agreed it is a serious business.

Deb Wolfe; Air Quality Planner of DEQ discussed the local control programs within the framework of state and federal laws. Deb discussed the U.S. Clean Air Act of 1963 and 1970. Senator Metcalf and Senator Baucus were sponsors of amendments to the Clean Air Acts; so Montana has been on the leading edge of this issue.

The U.S. Clean Air Act deals with the national ambient air quality standards, the air pollution permit programs; the toxic air pollutants; visibility protections and compliance & Enforcement issues. The STOM Clean Air Act of Montana was passed in 1967 and it establishes the Board of Environmental Review (a panel of people selected by the Governor who set the rules); the DEQ who implement the rules; the Montana Ambient Air Quality Standards; Emission Standards; Local air pollution control programs, and Compliance & Enforcement.

Congress has directed the states to research and plan, monitor air pollution and adopt and enforce rules. In Montana the legislature directs the Board to adopt rules to control statewide air pollution. The Board then allows the local governments to adopt the rules in order to control local air pollution. Other local programs that exist are Cascade County (Great Falls), Lincoln County (Libby) and Missoula (Missoula County). The City of Missoula has maintained and attained good local control. Deb also addressed other areas such as Flathead, Lewis & Clark and Butte-Silver Bow that are right on the edge of being non-attainment.

She stated the local communities need to make a commitment to understanding the seriousness of the problem, and coming up with policies to deal with the problems. Monitoring and compliance and enforcement will be necessary to carry out the policy.

Local Program Element Options include:

- Open burning regulations and techniques
- Woodstove regulations
- Paving, sanding, street sweeping requirements
- Stationary source permits (asphalt batch plants)
- Vehicle maintenance requirements
- Emergency episode rules (fires, volcanoes etc.)

DEQ will provide assistance on these options.

Commissioner Thompson stated the county has burning dates that are in effect; the Commissioners work with the Forest Service in regard to their burning dates, burning dates within the county. He stated the Commissioners want to do what ever they can do to deal with these issues, but it becomes frustrating to the local county when we have unlimited funds and the state has a slush fund. Therefore we need assistance in the financial areas. Deb stated it is important to remember the health care patients take the burden of costs. The state does have some funds, but this pot is shrinking because DEQ is at the legislators' mercy also. Commissioner Thompson indicated the State needs understand they represent the citizens and if a mandate is given; funding needs to be addressed by the State.

Deb stated if you are a polluter you are part of the solution. Deb also noted the monitor here in Hamilton is going to be representative of what is going on in the valley.

Commissioner Chilcott stated there are not many source contributors, like other industrial areas may have. Therefore funding is more of a challenge.

Commissioner Lyons commented about the tax incentives for wood burning stoves.

Morgan Farrell stated one first step is to look at other county policies. Commissioner Chilcott agreed there is no sense in re-creating the wheel as the boiler plate can be massaged to accomodate with Ravalli County.

Rick O'Brien asked Bob if there is a potential concern over the PM10 levels. Bob Jeffries stated they monitored Ravalli County's PM 10 levels, and while they were high, they never exceeded the maximum level.

Bob Haveck stated he is encouraged with what Ravalli County is doing. The burden will be upon the state to show how the clean p plan is going to take place. The local government needs to step forward on some local programs which will help in the requirement of providing a plan to the EPA in 2013. He indicated when the two new Commissioners and new Environmental Health Director comes in; they will come back to Ravalli County in July. They will have more data at that time also. While 2010 seems a

long way off, it takes time to build coalitions between government coalitions, show the strategy for education, guidelines etc., so the county can show what they are doing.

There was a question from the audience in regard to the Commissioners passing an ordinance prohibiting open burning. Deb stated the county does not have the authority to regulate air quality unless the Board of Environmental review gives them that authority. The Commissioners would need to have a public hearing; take comment and go before the Board of Environmental Review for those new rules. That board will want a comprehensive policy to make sure these changes will do something for a period of time.

Commissioner Chilcott agreed they need more data to show the sources of pollution in order to mitigate the problem.

Air Quality in Ravalli County



Bob Jeffrey

Montana Department of Environmental Quality

Discussion Topics

- Ambient Air Quality Standards
- What is Particulate Matter (PM)?
- $PM_{2.5}$ Air Pollution Sources
- Hamilton $PM_{2.5}$ Air Pollution Data
- $PM_{2.5}$ NAAQS Compliance Review
- Question and Answer Session

Ambient Air Quality Standards

- Primary Standards protect human health - including 'sensitive' populations with health issues, such as children and senior citizens.



Ambient Air Quality Standards

- Secondary Standards protect public welfare (e.g. crops, buildings, visibility)

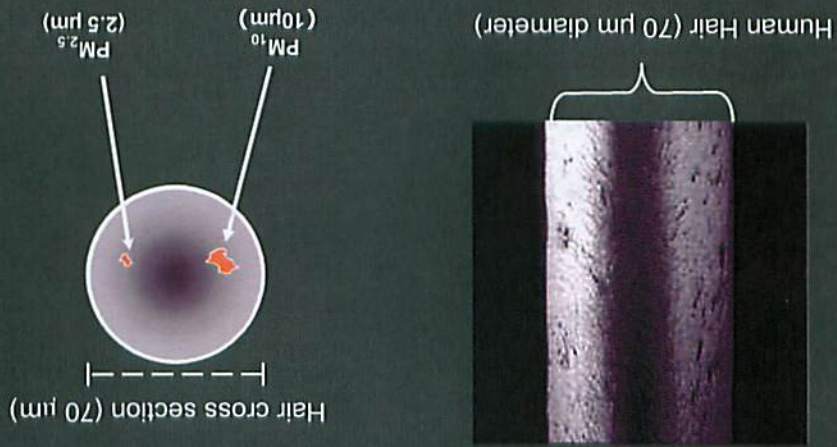


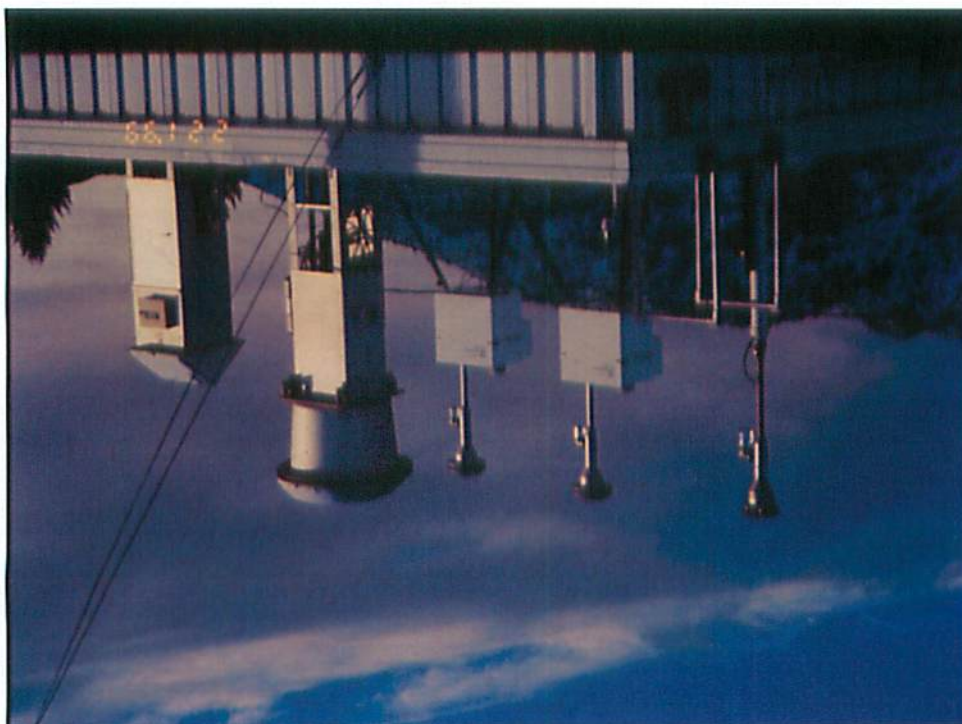
Current $PM_{2.5}$ NAAQS

- Particulate Matter < 2.5 Microns
- 1997 NAAQS were revised
- Final rule effective 18 Dec. 2006
- 24-hour $PM_{2.5}$ standard = $35 \mu g/m^3$
- Annual $PM_{2.5}$ standard = $15 \mu g/m^3$

WHAT IS PARTICULATE MATTER?

- Complex mixture of extremely small solid particles and drops of liquid in the air





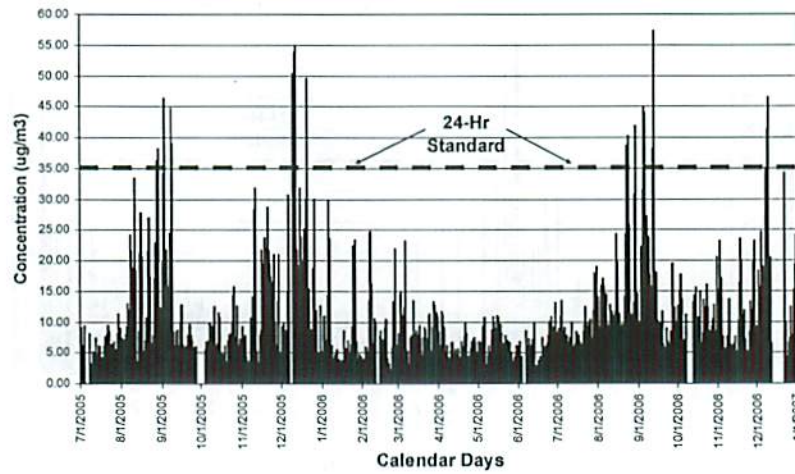
PM_{2.5} Air Pollution Sources

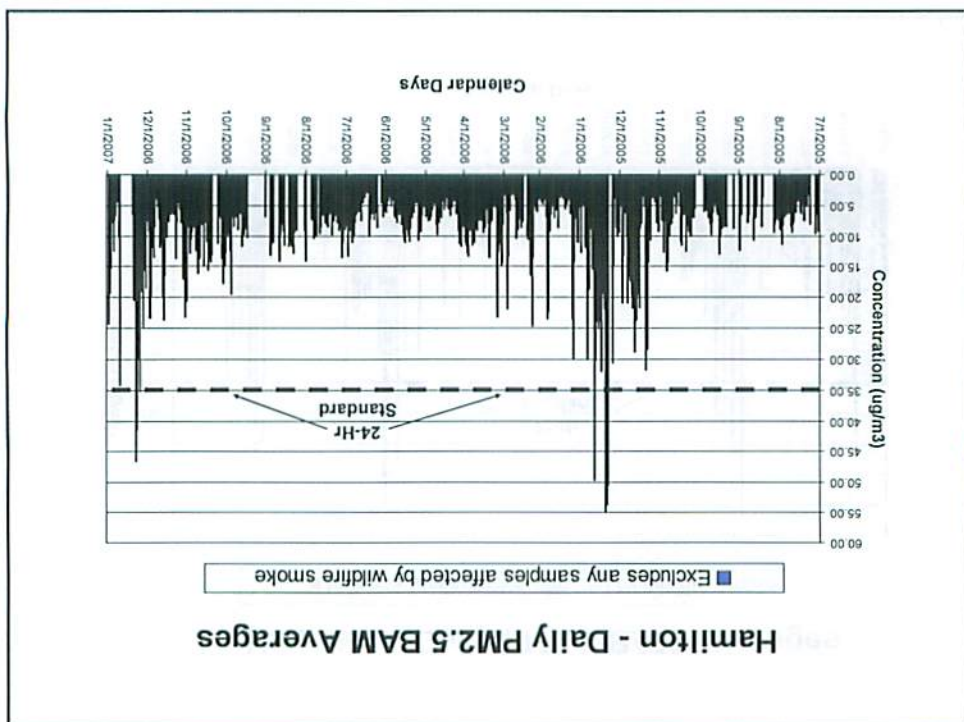
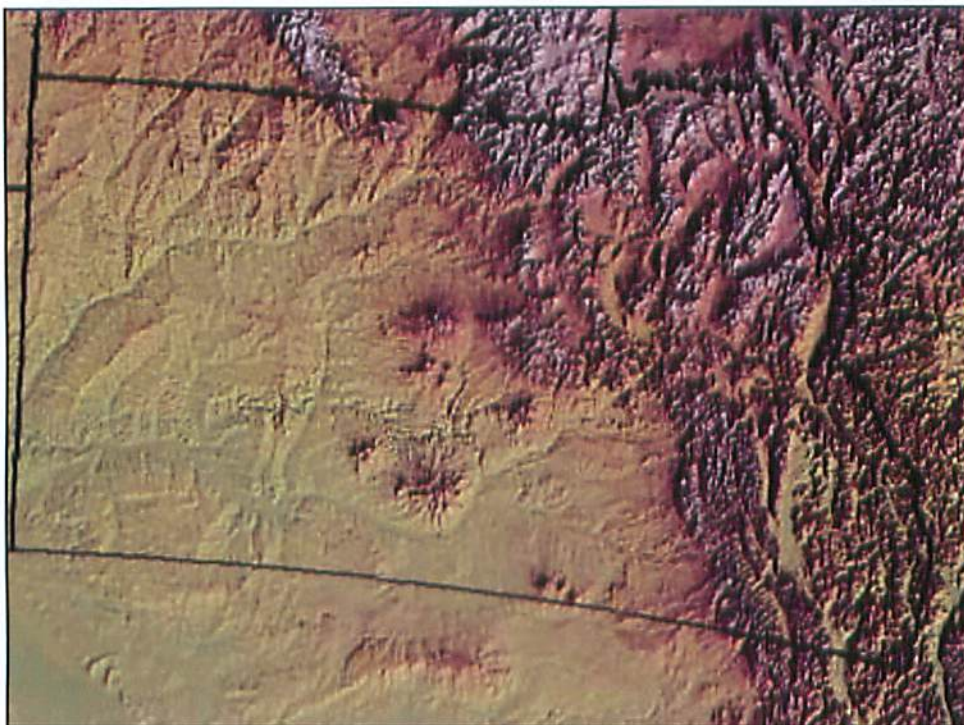
**Fine Particles Can Be
Emitted Directly or Formed
in the Air from Gases**

 Industrial Sources	 Forest Fires	 Non-Road Vehicles
 Cars and Trucks		 Natural Sources
 Heavy Duty Diesel Engines	 Power Plants	 Wood-Burning Stoves

Hamilton - Daily PM2.5 BAM Averages

■ Includes any samples affected by wildfire smoke





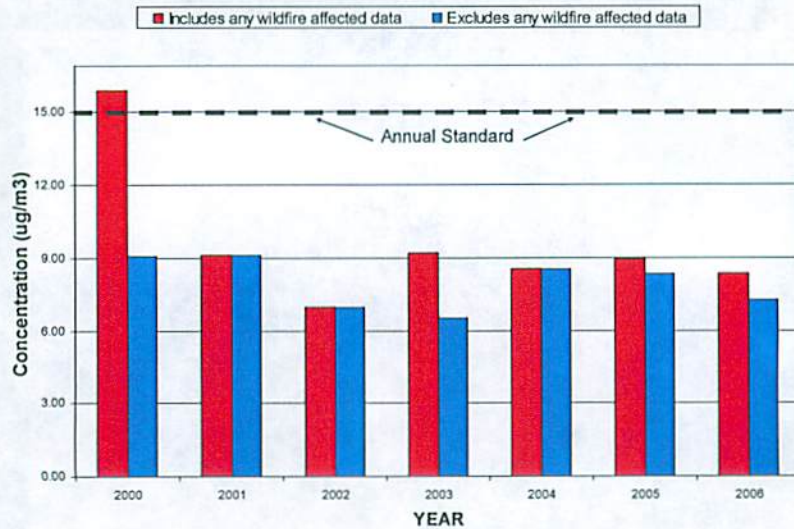


16 January 2004
Hamilton FRM [PM_{2.5}] = 45.5 µg/m³

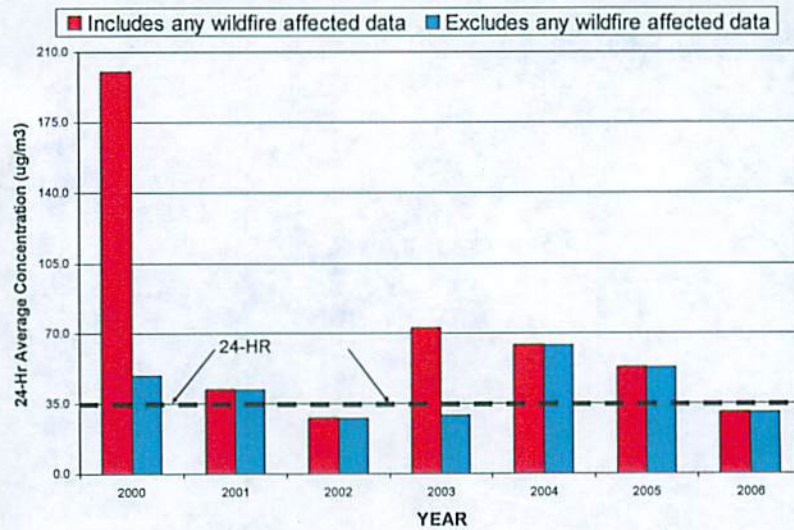


9 February 2004
Hamilton FRM [PM_{2.5}] = 4.1 µg/m³

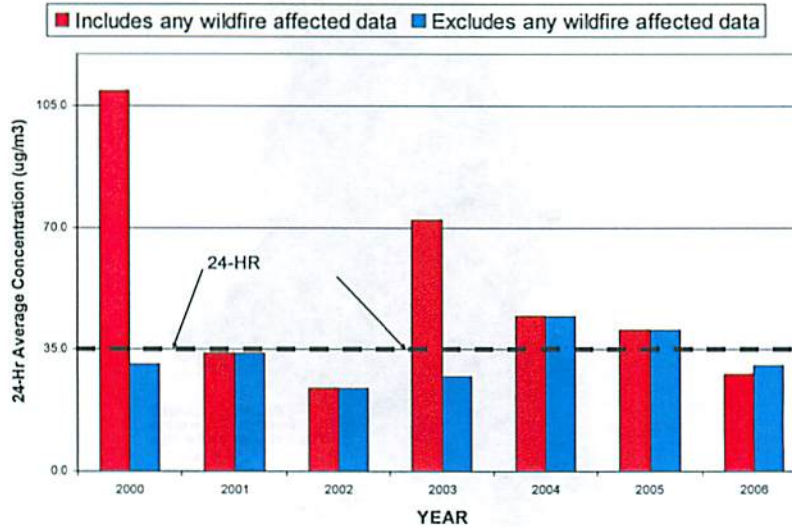
Hamilton - PM2.5 Annual Means



Hamilton - PM2.5 Daily Maximum Values

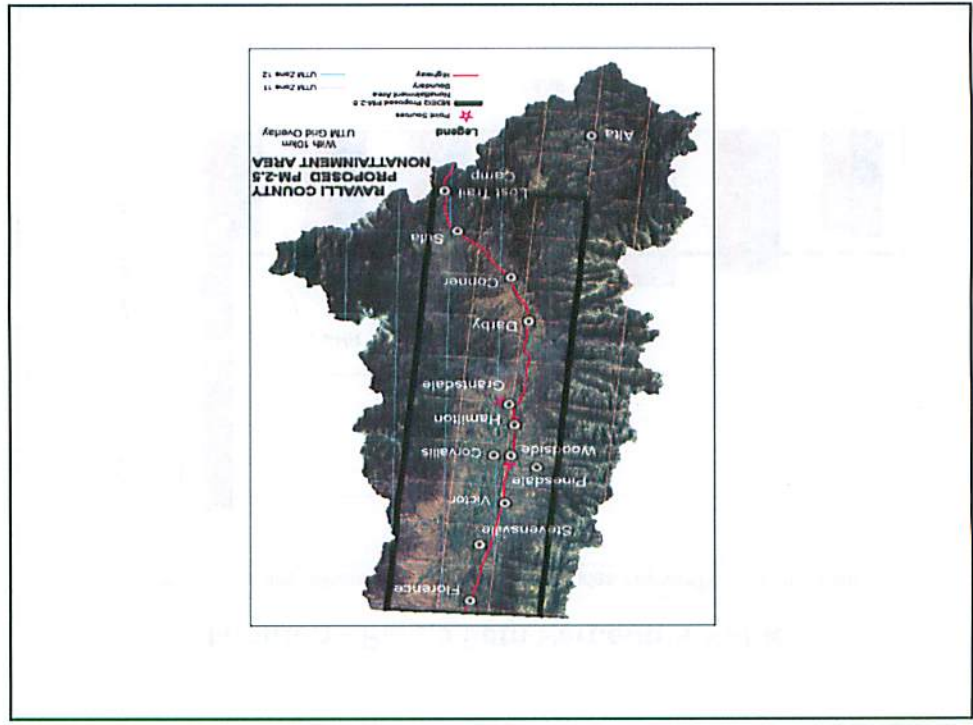


Hamilton - PM_{2.5} 98th Percentile Values



PM_{2.5} NAAQS Compliance Review

- 24-Hr Avg. for 2004-06 = 38.6 $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$
- 12/18/07: Montana submits NAA list to EPA
- 12/18/08: EPA makes final NAA decisions
- 4/27/10: Effective date for NAA designations
- 4/27/13: NAA cleanup plans due to EPA



Questions?

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<http://www.deq.mt.gov/AirQuality/AQinfo.asp>

Clean Air Act of MT - contents

- Board of Environmental Quality (Board)
- Department of Environmental Quality
- Montana Ambient Air Quality Standards
- Emission standards
- Local air pollution control programs
- Compliance / Enforcement

U. S. Clean Air Act - contents

- National Ambient Air Quality Standard
- Air pollution permit programs
- Toxic Air Pollutants
- Visibility Protection
- Compliance / Enforcement

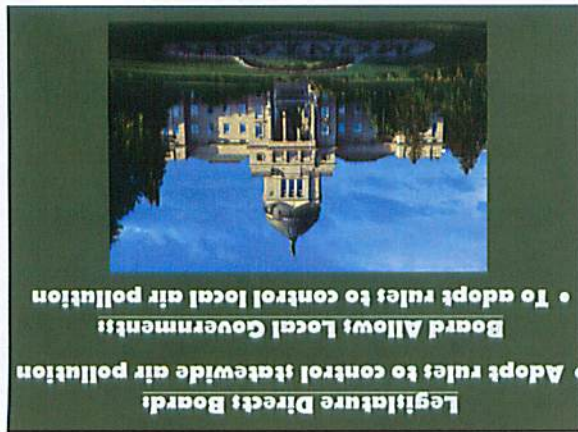
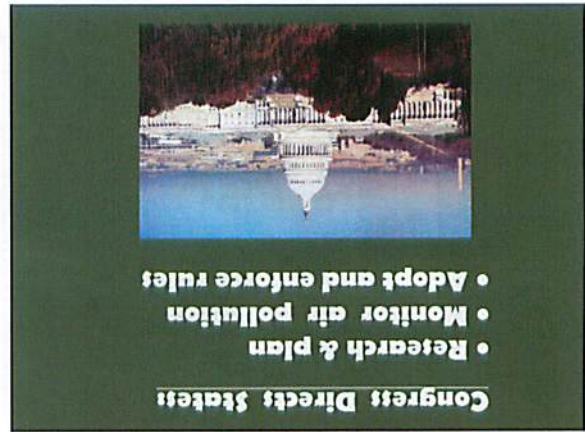
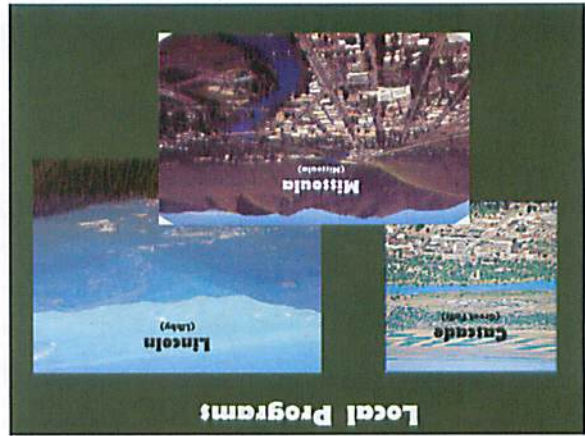
LOCAL CONTROL PROGRAMS

- ✓ State and federal laws
- ✓ What to consider
- ✓ Developing a local program

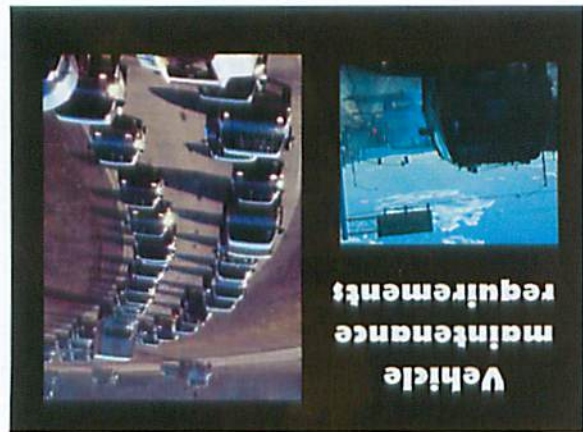
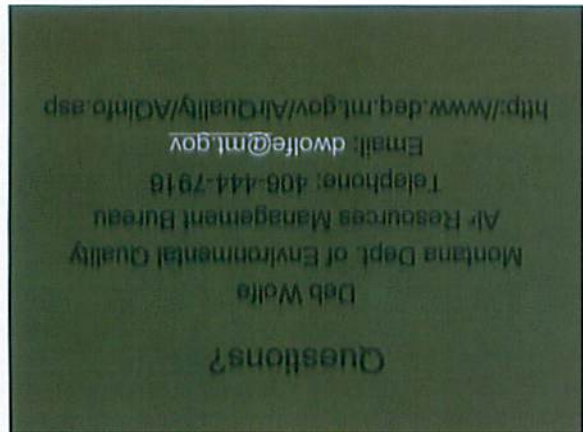
Deb Wolfe
Montana Department of Environmental Quality

Clean Air Act of Montana

U.S. Clean Air Act







Stationary source permits

Vehicle maintenance requirements

Emergency episode rules

DEQ Assistance

Questions?

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<http://www.deq.mt.gov/AirQuality/AQInfo.asp>